Our ref: KON-1692

Client's ref: KPD-5034 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Eisaku Katoh, et al:

Serial No. : 10/015,978

Filed : December 10, 2001

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PTO's Confirmation

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Group

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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Pursuant to the duty of Disclosure, there is enclosed herewith completed Form PTO-1449, listing references recently cited against the European Patent Application corresponding to the aboveidentified Application. It is believed that the Examiner will agree that they do not anticipate or render obvious the present Invention, whether taken singly or in combination. Copies of the references are also enclosed.

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

It is hereby certified that each item of information set forth was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement. Moreover, the first Office Action has not been received. For both of the foregoing reasons, no fee is due.

Should any extensions of time or fees be necessary in order to maintain this Application in pending condition, appropriate requests are hereby made and authorization is given to debit account #02-2275.

Respectfully submitted,

BIERMAN, MUSERLIAN AND LUCAS

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Enclosures:

Form PTO-1449 with references

Return receipt post-card